

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/GB2004/004675

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 B01D46/52

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 B01D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 542 396 A (USM ESPANA SA ; BRITISH UNITED SHOE MACHINERY (GB)) 19 May 1993 (1993-05-19) abstract; figures 1,4 column 10, line 28 - line 32	1
A	DE 33 04 350 A (SCHUMANN TEXTILE INDUSTRIEPROD) 9 August 1984 (1984-08-09) page 6, line 16 - line 21 page 8, line 27 - page 9, line 29; figures 1-7	
A	GB 2 294 649 A (BTR PLC) 8 May 1996 (1996-05-08) abstract; figure 5 page 7, line 3 - line 6	
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents :

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- \*C\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*S\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

21 January 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

31/01/2005

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	DE 40 21 607 A (SCHUMANN KLAUS) 9 January 1992 (1992-01-09) abstract; figures 1,9 -----	
A	EP 0 692 293 A (NITTETSU MINING CO LTD) 17 January 1996 (1996-01-17) abstract; figures 19-22 -----	

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